

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 18 is the only claim in this application.

Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The rejection states:

There is no support in the original disclosure for the substrate having an adsorbent thereon for a surface active agent prior to the formation of the photoresist layer (the only thing [0033] of present specification is stating is that one can remove the surface active agent as completely as possible *before applying the composition onto the substrate surface* by using an adsorbent (also, the specification does not say that the adsorbent is to be present on the substrate)).

In reply, claim 18 has been amended substantially as suggested by the Examiner and in conformity with the disclosure of the present specification and in particular, paragraph [0033].

Further, claim 18 has been rejected as indefinite in that the:

Present specification states that one can remove the surface active agent *as completely as possible before applying the composition onto the substrate surface* by using an adsorbent. That is, *before applying the composition onto the substrate*, the surface active agent is supposedly removed as completely as possible. However, present claim 18 is claiming a photosensitive material which comprises (a) a substrate, which already has an adsorbent thereon before the formation of the photoresist layer (for the purpose of adsorbing a surface active agent) and (b) a photoresist layer, which comprises a surface active agent in a concentration lower than 10 ppm by weight.

The above amendment to claim 18 is also responsive to this rejection.

For the foregoing reasons, it is apparent that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 have been overcome.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact

undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Satoshi MAEMORI et al.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
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By: Matthew M. Jacob
Matthew M. Jacob
Registration No. 25,154
Attorney for Applicants

MJ/kes
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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